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Senate Committee on Energy, Consumer Protection and Government Reform Public Hearing
10:00 AM – 330 Southwest

Chairman Cowles and Members of the Committee:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of AB 589/SB 445. This legislation allows a local health department in a first class city (currently, this only applies to the city of Milwaukee) to issue a license to a retail food or a bed and breakfast establishment at any point during the year. This license expires one year from the day the license is issued.

AB 589/SB 445 helps to eliminate the bureaucracy associated with obtaining a license for a retail food or bed and breakfast establishment. Currently, the Department of Health Services issues these licenses. This legislation authorizes the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to enter into an agreement with the local health departments to allow these local departments to issue licenses.

This bill will eliminate the proverbial bureaucratic "red tape." Thank you for the time to discuss AB 589/SB 445. I am open to any questions the committee may have.

Thank you.

Dale P. Kooyenga